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famous controversy down to date. He holds with Vinogradoff as to origins, but believes that scholar to have over-emphasized the similarity between the thirteenth-century manor and the Anglo-Saxon community; he approves Maitland's caution on this point; and commends to Englishmen Delisle's *Étude sur la Condition de la Classe Agricole en Normandie*, believing that the effect of the Conquest upon English agriculture has not been appreciated nor Norman conditions sufficiently studied. Under the last head, much should be expected from the present researches of Professor Haskins. In the last five studies, M. Petit-Dutaillis speaks with authority, his *Étude sur la Vie et le Règne de Louis VIII.* (Paris, 1894) having led him to original investigation of several important English institutions. These studies are upon the origin of English towns, twelfth-century London, the two trials of King John, the "Unknown Charter", and Magna Carta. He emphasizes the economic aspect of borough origins rather at the expense of their institutional aspect; he appears to have disproved Mr. Round's theory that the official confederation of the Cinque Ports was subsequent to John's reign; he believes that London was a commune in the French sense only during Richard I.'s absence, but has not successfully accounted for the mention of London's aids in the feudal twelfth article of the Charter. He upholds Bémont's original theories regarding the trials of John; believes that the "Unknown Charter" is the report by an agent of Philip Augustus of negotiations between king and barons shortly before the *Articuli Baronum* were formulated; and supplements some of McKechnie's conclusions by an acute study of several articles of Magna Carta, contributing some original suggestions upon points of detail. He strangely fails to take account of Professor Adams's studies on the Charter. One cannot accept his statement that art. XIV. was solely in the king's interest nor that "there is no question" in the Charter "of the reign of law". Several other supplementary studies that might have been added promptly suggest themselves; certainly recent work on scutage is very inadequately dealt with in the footnote on p. 56.

A. B. WHITE.

*L'Angleterre Chrétienne avant les Normands.* Par Dom FERNAND CABROL, Abbé de Farnborough. [Bibliothèque de l'Enseignement de l'Histoire Ecclésiastique.] (Paris: Victor Lecoffre. 1908. Pp. xxiii, 341.)

THE Abbot of Farnborough has placed students of ecclesiastical history under various obligations and the great dictionary of archaeology and liturgics appearing under his editorship would alone secure for him a distinguished place among scholars. The present slight work will not add much to his reputation. At first sight it looks pretentious, with its unnecessarily elaborate critical apparatus. Much space is given to bibliographies and the pages are loaded with references to authorities

and sources. Yet the text rarely travels beyond Bright's *Chapters of Early English Church History* or Hunt's well known volume in the series on the history of the Church of England edited by Stephens and Hunt, or other standard works. Even the bibliographies have less originality than would at first appear. But to say that the volume is of little importance to students able to use English books is not to condemn it. In reality it is merely a part of a great undertaking inspired by the wish of Leo XIII. to see "une histoire ecclésiastique universelle, mise au point du progrès de la critique de notre temps". As such the work is excellent, fully abreast of recent scholarship, bringing together assured results in an attractive and convenient form. Writing on such a theme it is difficult for an author to suppress himself and it is hardly necessary. The ecclesiastical affiliations of the writer, however, are nowhere obtrusive and there is no trace of bias in his statements. Dom Cabrol has been unfortunate in falling foul of some of the writers of an antiquated type whose contentions have long since been abandoned by English scholars of all parties, but to whom he feels called upon to give a few polemical thrusts. These passages though brief are to be regretted as giving French students and others unacquainted with the better English works a false opinion of Anglican scholarship, to representatives of which the author pays high tribute in his bibliographies, though without noting that they are Anglican writers. The general treatment of the Anglo-Saxon Church labors under the disadvantage of being often over-condensed. Some space given to graceful legends might have been saved for more important matters. Thus it is quite misleading to attribute the conversion of Wessex to the influence of King Oswald. The importance of the work of St. Birinus should have been mentioned. There is too much stress laid upon the work of Aidan. The force of territorialism in the Anglo-Saxon Church is hardly recognized. There is a disproportionate amount of the limited space given to monasticism, important as that is. But as an introduction to the subject, the book will serve as a safe guide to French students and for further study the ample bibliographies and references, points for which the author has an evident weakness, will be found useful. For English and American students there are more satisfactory works at hand, for the traditional Anglican historian has been entirely supplanted by such men as Bright, Hunt and Plummer.

Jos. CULLEN AYER, JR.

*The Gilds and Companies of London.* By GEORGE UNWIN, Lecturer on Economic History in the University of Edinburgh. (London: Methuen and Company. 1908. Pp. xvi, 397.)

MR. UNWIN has given us a most interesting general account of the numerous gilds and companies of the great English metropolis and has supplied a valuable work of reference for students of municipal, social